

12-22-05
CLAIMS

Application No.: 10/064,549

RD-28294

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CLAIMS:

The following claims are pending.

FINAL
CLAIM
NUMBERING

1. (Previously presented) An imager for imaging a subject illuminated by incident radiation, said imager comprising:

a substrate comprising a polymer;

a photosensor array disposed on said substrate, wherein said photosensor array comprises a plurality of photosensors and an addressable thin film transistor (TFT) array comprising a plurality of TFTs,

wherein each of said TFTs is electrically coupled to a respective one of said photosensors so as to selectively address respective photosensors in said photosensor array, and

wherein each of said TFTs comprises a gate electrode, a semiconductive region comprising an organic semiconductor and disposed over said gate electrode, and a source electrode and a drain electrode in contact with said semiconductive region; and

a scintillator disposed so as to receive and absorb the incident radiation, configured to convert the incident radiation to optical photons, and optically coupled to said photosensor array,

wherein said photosensor array is configured to receive the optical photons and to generate an electrical signal corresponding to the optical photons.

~~2.~~ (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The imager of Claim ~~2~~ 3, wherein said substrate comprises an organic polymer.

4. (Previously presented) The imager of Claim 3, wherein said substrate comprises polyimide.

5-7. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously presented) An imager for imaging a subject illuminated by incident radiation, said imager comprising:

a substrate comprising a polymer;

a back surface layer disposed on a back surface of said substrate, wherein said back surface layer comprises a plurality of heating elements;

a photosensor array disposed on said substrate; and

a scintillator disposed so as to receive and absorb the incident radiation, configured to convert the incident radiation to optical photons, and optically coupled to said photosensor array,

wherein said photosensor array is configured to receive the optical photons and to generate an electrical signal corresponding to the optical photons.

~~5~~² 9. (Previously presented) The imager of Claim ~~8~~², wherein said photosensor array comprises a plurality of photosensors and an addressable thin film transistor (TFT) array comprising a plurality of TFTs,

wherein each of said TFTs is electrically coupled to a respective one of said photosensors so as to selectively address respective photosensors in said photosensor array,

wherein each of said TFTs comprises a gate electrode, a semiconductive region disposed over said gate electrode, and a source electrode and a drain electrode in contact with and disposed over said semiconductive region, and

wherein each of said semiconductive regions comprises a layer of intrinsic amorphous Silicon (a-Si) and a layer of doped amorphous Silicon disposed over said layer of intrinsic a-Si.

~~6~~⁵ 10. (Previously presented) The imager of Claim ~~9~~⁵, wherein said addressable TFT array is situated between said substrate and said plurality of photosensors, wherein each of said photosensors comprises an amorphous-Silicon photodiode, and wherein said imager further comprises:

a coating layer, disposed between said substrate and said addressable TFT array; and

a cover layer disposed over said scintillator.

11. (Cancelled)

~~7~~¹² 12. (Previously presented) The imager of Claim 1, wherein said semiconductive region is disposed over said source and drain electrodes, wherein said plurality of photosensors is situated between said substrate and said addressable TFT array, wherein said TFTs are optically transparent, and wherein said imager further comprises a cover layer disposed over said scintillator.

~~8~~⁸ 13. (Previously presented) The imager of Claim ~~8~~², wherein said scintillator comprises cesium iodide.

~~9~~⁹ 14. (Previously presented) The imager of Claim ~~8~~², wherein said scintillator comprises a phosphor screen.

~~10~~¹⁰ 15. (Previously presented) A digital imager for imaging a subject illuminated by incident radiation, said digital imager comprising:

a substrate comprising an organic polymer and being about three (3) mils to about eight (8) mils in thickness;

a photosensor array disposed on said substrate, said photosensor array comprising a plurality of photosensors and an addressable thin film transistor (TFT) array comprising a plurality of TFTs, said photosensors being arranged to form a plurality of columns and at least one row, and each of said TFTs being electrically coupled to a respective one of said photosensors so as to selectively address respective photosensors in said photosensor array;

a scintillator disposed so as to receive and absorb the incident radiation, configured to convert the incident radiation to optical photons, and optically coupled to said photosensor array; and

a back surface layer disposed on a back surface of said substrate, said back surface layer comprising a plurality of heating elements, wherein said photosensor array is configured to receive the optical photons and to generate an electrical signal corresponding to the optical photons.

16-17. (Cancelled)

~~11~~¹¹ 18. (Previously presented) The digital imager of Claim ~~15~~¹⁰, wherein said photosensors are arranged to form one row.

~~12~~¹² 19. (Previously presented) The digital imager of Claim ~~15~~¹⁰, wherein said photosensors are arranged to form a plurality of rows.

~~13~~¹³ 20. (Previously presented) The digital imager of Claim ~~15~~¹⁰, wherein each of said TFTs comprises a gate electrode, a semiconductive region disposed over said gate

electrode, and a source electrode and a drain electrode in contact with and disposed over said semiconductive region, and

wherein each of said semiconductive regions comprises a layer of intrinsic amorphous Silicon (a-Si) and a layer of doped amorphous Silicon disposed over said layer of intrinsic a-Si.

¹⁴~~21~~. (Previously presented) The digital imager of Claim ¹³~~20~~, wherein said addressable TFT array is situated between said substrate and said photosensors, each of which comprises an amorphous-Silicon photodiode, and wherein said digital imager further comprises a coating layer, which is disposed between said substrate and said addressable TFT array.

¹⁵~~22~~. (Previously presented) The digital imager of Claim ¹⁰~~15~~, wherein each of said TFTs comprises a gate electrode, a semiconductive region comprising an organic semiconductor and disposed over said gate electrode, and a source electrode and a drain electrode in contact with said semiconductive region.

¹⁶~~23~~. (Previously presented) The digital imager of Claim ¹⁵~~22~~, wherein said semiconductive region is disposed over said source and drain electrodes, wherein said plurality of photosensors is situated between said substrate and said addressable TFT array, and wherein said TFTs are optically transparent.

24-38. (Cancelled)

¹⁷~~29~~. (Previously presented) A linear array computer tomography (CT) scanner for imaging a subject illuminated by incident radiation, said linear array CT scanner comprising:

a substrate comprising a polymer;

a linear photosensor array disposed on said substrate, said photosensor array comprising a plurality of photosensors arranged in a row and an addressable thin film transistor (TFT) array comprising a plurality of TFTs, each of said TFTs being electrically coupled to a respective one of said photosensors so as to selectively address respective photosensors in said linear photosensor array, wherein each of said TFTs comprises a gate electrode, a semiconductive region comprising an organic semiconductor and disposed over said gate electrode, and a source electrode and a drain electrode in contact with said semiconductive region;

a scintillator disposed so as to receive and absorb the incident radiation, configured to convert the incident radiation to optical photons, and optically coupled to said linear photosensor array,

wherein said linear photosensor array is configured to receive the optical photons and to generate an electrical signal corresponding to the optical photons, and wherein each of said photosensors is oriented at a predetermined angle relative to an adjacent one of said photosensors, for alignment with the incident radiation, and wherein said substrate and said linear photosensor array are arranged in a fixed configuration.

40. (Cancelled)

¹⁸ 41. (Previously presented) The linear array CT scanner of Claim ¹⁷ 39, wherein said linear photosensor array and said substrate are configured to be adjustable for arranging each of said photosensors at a predetermined angle relative to an adjacent one of said photosensors.